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A REVIEW OF
"SIXTY YEARS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA"

BY J. M. GUINN

The Historical Society of Southern California has received from Mr. M. H. Newmark the donation of a volume entitled "Sixty Years in Southern California, 1853-1913," written by his father, Harris Newmark, deceased. Harris Newmark was born in Loe-bau, West Prussia, the 5th of July, 1834. At the age of nineteen he left his native country for California, to which an elder brother had preceded him two years before. His destination was Los Angeles, where he arrived October 21st, 1853.

A boy without a knowledge of the English language and ignorant of the customs of the country, he began the struggle to make his way in the world. By industry, economy and perseverance he succeeded, and before retiring from business laid the foundation of one of the largest wholesale houses in California.

His book may be styled a personal history of Los Angeles City. It is largely devoted to the history of the men who laid the foundations for the city's greatness and devoted their energies to its up-building.

Every old-timer who did something toward civic betterment gets a mention, not a fulsome biography, but just a pleasant introduction to the public and a few words of commendation.

The story of events in the city's history is told in chapters with significant titles, such as "The Rush for Gold;" "The Deluge of 1861;" "Rumblings of War;" "The Last of the Vigilantes;" "Coming of the Iron Horse;" "The Chinese Massacre;" "The Wool Craze;" "The Great Boom of 1887;" and other incidents and tragedies in the city's life that have transpired in the sixty years of Mr. Newmark's residence in it, and to most of which he was an eye witness. These are described clearly and forcibly in a plain matter-of-fact style, without any attempt at dramatic effects. His descriptions have the merit of being first hand—from life and not from books.

The book is illustrated with pictures of pioneers, views of the city at different stages of its growth, and cuts of historic houses. It will be a valuable accession to the libraries of all who take an interest in the study of the history of our city. The thanks of the Historical Society of Southern California are hereby tendered the editors, Messrs. Maurice H. Newmark and Marco R. Newmark, for this valuable book, "Sixty Years in Southern California."